

# Board Adopts \$22.3 Million School Budget

# Press-Herald

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**THAT HAPPY FEELING . . .** Members of the cast for the Torrance Recreation Department's annual aquacade strike a pose for the camera before taking to the water for a final run through. The water show, "That Happy Feeling," will open Friday night at the city plunge for a three-night run. Friday and Saturday, a carnival will precede the 8:30 p.m. performances. Pictured here are (clockwise from bottom center) Susan Kinane, 14; Scott Smith, 20; Stefanie Kallak, 21; Lynn Gregory, 16; and Jan Gregory, 11. (Press-Herald Photo)

## Edward Talbert Named To City Council Seat

### Arrest Two for Robbery

#### Police Search For Third Man

Two of three suspects in a supermarket robbery Tuesday morning were in police custody after they walked out of the market carrying their loot in a shopping cart to be confronted by two Torrance police officers.

Torrance police were searching for a third man who fled from the entrance of Better Foods Market, 16902 Prairie Ave., when the trio were spotted by police.

Taken into custody and charged with armed robbery were William Walker Herridon, 300, of 2261 W. Williams St., Long Beach, and Gerald Lee Neese, 25, of 11208 Tudor Ave., Ontario.

**THE SUSPECTS** allegedly entered the market and forced employees, at gunpoint, to open the safe at 5:45 a.m. Witnesses said the trio were masked but that only one handled a revolver.

The trio was seen as they exited the market by officers Paul Lemke and Noland Dane as they were parked across the street. All three fled when the officers spotted the masks.

An undetermined amount of money was recovered from a shopping cart abandoned nearby after a chase by officers.

**A SEARCH** of the neighborhood turned up suspect Herridon who was on foot. A short distance from the robbery, Neese was captured after an auto chase with speeds up to 70 mph. He was apprehended at 177th Street and Yukon Avenue after officers Sidney Post and Robert Holmes reportedly fired at his vehicle with a shotgun.

A third suspect described as 22 to 24 years of age is being sought in the robbery.



**TAKES OATH . . .** Edward L. Talbert (right) takes oath of office after his selection last night to fill the vacancy on the Torrance City Council which was created when H. Ted Olson resigned Aug. 1. Talbert, 43, is the first man to be appointed to the council since 1951. Administering the oath is City Clerk Vernon W. Coll. (Press-Herald Photo)

### Council Divides On Vote

By REID L. BUNDY

Editor and Co-Publisher

Edward L. Talbert, former member of the city's Planning Commission and a candidate for the City Council in 1964, was sworn in as a councilman Tuesday evening after his selection to succeed H. Ted Olson who resigned Aug. 1.

The selection and seating of Talbert came three days after his 43rd birthday.

Tuesday night's voting by the six incumbent councilmen was split with two votes going for David Halstead, currently serving as president of the Planning Commission. The vote reportedly followed the pattern set at a 6 a.m. closed meeting Monday at which time the six councilmen narrowed down a field of more than 20 to Halstead and Talbert.

**THE NEW** councilman, who lives at 3123 Cricklewood St., has been active in Torrance business and community affairs since coming here in 1960 as manager of the First Western Bank branch. He later joined Imperial Bank as vice president and was manager here when the bank opened a new branch in Torrance. He later left to enter the insurance field.

"I'd like to get this out and over with . . . this naming a new councilman." Ken Miller said early in Tuesday evening's meeting.

Miller, commenting on the 6 a.m. meeting the day before, apologized saying "if they weren't confused, I was." He said the choice suddenly was down to two and it was indicated that "you had to vote for one or the other."

### Completes Course

Douglas L. Jensen, 2315 Marshall Field Lane, Redondo Beach, graduated from Southern California Edison Co's Operator Training school here recently. Jensen is assistant control operator at the Redondo Steam Station.

**HE OPENED** nominations in public by nominating Halstead.

In answer to a query to acting city attorney Richard Knickerbocker, Isen was told that the effect of the votes (See TALBERT, Page A-4)

### AWAIT GOVERNOR'S ACTION

## Solons Approve Funds For New Skills Center

Plans for construction of the Southern California Occupational Center in Torrance received a boost late Sunday when the State Legislature passed two measures to provide funds for the center's operation.

A loan of \$5 million was provided by Assemblyman L. E. (Larry) Townsend's AB 2096. The loan will provide funds to begin operations and pay for initial construction.

This bill, along with AB 2592, which provides for the legal establishment of the center as a school district, now awaits Governor Ronald Reagan's signature.

**BOTH MEASURES** were passed with only hours left in the legislative session.

"This legislative package offered will be aimed at 11th

and 12th grade students who wish to have special training for specific careers.

Master plan projections for the initial offerings in February include secretarial training, data processing, equipment operators, major appliance repair, welding, dental and medical assistant programs. A placement service will also be provided.

The center will be constructed, starting in October, on 10 acres of land near Sepulveda and Crenshaw Boulevards.

**ARCHITECTS** Donley Bunday and Associates of Los Angeles are now developing plans for a crash program which calls for facilities to be opened and in use by Feb. 3, 1968.

The first programs to be offered will be aimed at 11th

## Budget Largest in District's History

By TIM O'DONNELL

Press-Herald Staff Writer

A final budget for the Torrance Unified School District which includes a 3-cent reduction in the tax rate was adopted by the Board of Education Monday night.

The budget calls for expenditures of \$22,312,187 and includes salary increases for most district employees which average about 4 percent.

The tax cut will reduce to \$4,327.10 per \$100 of assessed valuation the 1967-68 tax rate, according to Dr. Frank L. Mattox, assistant superintendent of schools for busi-

ness. The tax rate last year was \$4,357.00 per \$100 of assessed valuation.

**THE DISTRICT** will receive an estimated \$1 million from the increase approved in Assembly Bill 272 as part of Governor Ronald Reagan's program to increase state support of schools, according to Dr. Mattox.

This money will go into the reserve fund, which now totals more than \$3 million, unless the board decides to apply it to items which were originally trimmed from the budget.

The unanimous vote, on

motion of Dr. Owen Griffith, to approve the final budget marked the end of two months of preliminary work and negotiation by the board and school administrators.

Dr. Donald Wilson, who is vacationing, was not present at the session Monday night.

**THE BOARD** also approved budget expenditures for the Bond Interest and Redemption Fund (\$4,438,751), Building Fund (\$6,704,431), a Cafeteria Fund (\$1,232,561) and Children's Center Fund (\$270,460).

Board members named Dr. Donald E. Wilson to represent the district at the California School Boards Association Delegate Assembly, a nomination that Dr. Wilson accepted prior to the announcement in a communication to the board.

Dr. J. H. Hull, superintendent for the district, was voted a \$500 raise. The raise — to \$26,500 — is less than 2 percent compared to the 4.17 percent voted other administrators.

## Assessment List Published Today

Changes in assessments for most of the Torrance area are published in today's editions of the Press-Herald.

County Assessor Philip E. Watson urged all property owners to check the listings in today's editions for changes in their property valuations. Watson, carrying out his policy of full disclosure of assessment information, is reporting assessment changes throughout the county through publication in more than 100 Los Angeles County community newspapers this week. All changes in the assessment of real property in the county — both increases and decreases — are included in the listings.

In addition, the complete assessment roll for one-fifth of the county is being published, Watson said.

The list in today's editions is arranged by map book



**PHILIP E. WATSON** Reveals Assessments

areas and, as an additional service, the Press-Herald has published a map of its publication zone.

Property owners should refer to the map first to determine in which map book area their property is located, then consult the list of assessment for that area. The map appears on page C-6 and the assessment list on pages C-7 through C-15.

### Promote Manager

Albert (Bud) Camin of Azusa has been promoted to manager of contracts and production at PAR Workshops. The workshops are located in Los Angeles, Whittier, and at 1825 W. 180th St., Gardena.

## Review of City Charter Begins

By ED FREUDENBURG

Press-Herald Staff Writer

A report on the functions of the city manager form of government will be given tonight by City Manager Edward Ferraro to the newly formed Torrance Charter Review Committee.

The Charter Review Committee, composed of 10 civic leaders, is looking into the possibilities of charter revision in 13 categories which the committee has selected, according to chairman Larry Bowman.

Although the city council has given the committee powers of inspection and recommendation, the review group will "not change the present form of government," Bowman said.

The review committee was formed in June to possibly propose charter amendments

for the 1968 election, but Bowman said that there is nothing at present to indicate that there will be amendments on the ballot.

The committee has selected the following topics to be discussed in order of importance: (1) city manager form of government; (2) election of city clerk, city treasurer, city attorney; (3) director of finance; (4) fiscal procedures; and (5) councilmanic elections.

Other topics to be discussed will be: (6) method of electing mayor; (7) compensation; (8) relation of school board to charter; (9) conflict with existing state laws; (10) conflicts of interest; (11) advisory board powers; (12) civil service system; (13) airport.

Bowman reported that the review committee will offer a progress report to the City Council by September but

that a final report may not reach the council until after November.

"Studious not quickly," will be the committee's intention on any recommendation for charter amendments, relates Bowman.

The study will be aided by the city attorney's office and department heads of the city as well as through public hearings, he said.

At present, the committee plans to open discussion to the public through written recommendations and possibly some public hearings.

"Our task is important enough to let the public know what is going on," the committee chairman stated.

Tonight, the meeting will be held in the city hall employees lounge and the public is invited to observe the proceedings, Bowman said.

### College Budget Adopted . . .

Trustees of El Camino College Monday adopted a \$12.4 million budget for the 1967-68 school year. Nearly half of the total budget will be spent for salaries and books, according to a spokesman for the board. The new budget is \$1.2 million higher than the budget for last year.

### Ranchero Days to Open . . .

Celebration of the annual Ranchero Days events under the sponsorship of the Torrance Junior Chamber of Commerce will begin at noon today when the carnival midway opens. The celebration, which has included a beauty contest and parade in prior years, this year is confined to the carnival, which has been set up at the Del Amo Center. Rides and a variety of booths will be open until 11 p.m. each day through Sunday. The event is the major fund-raising activity of the Jaycees each year.

### Thieves Get Tires, TV Sets . . .

Burglars hit Parnelli Jones' Firestone Store, 20350 Hawthorne Blvd., Tuesday for \$1,377 in television sets and tires after breaking in through a window. Employees reported that nine portable sets valued at approximately \$800 were taken along with five tires which were in the service stalls area of the store. The thieves apparently wanted to be known for their patronage as they took three jackets with the word "Firestone" written across the backs.